

News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr. Suite 1100, Vasco A. Smith, Jr. Administration Building, 160 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

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December 11, 2015





New Director Chosen for the Shelby County Health Department



Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr. and Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner Dr. John Dreyzehner have chosen a 30-year public health clinician and administrator to lead the Shelby County Health Department. Dr. Alisa Haushalter, DNP, RN, Senior Director of the Department of Population Health for Nemours Health and Prevention Services of Wilmington, Delaware, will begin her duties on January 16th. A state statute requires the appointment of county health department directors to be approved at both the state and county level. Her appointment will also go before the Shelby County Commission.

"Dr. Haushalter has excellent credentials and has held various positions in the public health arena, including a leadership role at the Metro Public Health Department in Nashville, Tennessee," said Mayor Luttrell. Dr. Haushalter began her work in Wilmington in 2012 and was the Project Director for Nemours' Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation. She was also on the Delaware Public Health Institute Board.

"We're pleased to work with Mayor Luttrell and his team in Shelby County in the recruiting and selection process for Dr. Haushalter," said Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner John Dreyzehner, MD, MPH. "We welcome her and her leadership and look forward to continuing the long-standing collaborative relationship we have enjoyed with the great team at the health department and the greater Memphis-Shelby County community."

While in Nashville at the Metro Public Health Department, Dr. Haushalter was a public health nurse and leader. She worked closely with community leaders to address a variety of health needs. She was a founding member of the Nashville Public Health Learning Collaborative; a partnership between the Metro Public Health Department and three local schools of public health.

"I am confident our team at the Shelby County Health Department will provide both proven and innovative approaches that will prevent chronic conditions such as high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes and address other health priorities unique to Shelby County. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve Shelby County as County Health Director," said Dr. Haushalter.

Additionally, Dr. Haushalter had faculty appointments at Meharry Medical College School of Public Health; Vanderbilt University School of Nursing; and the University of Florida Southeastern TB Training Center. She is originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and attended Carlow University and later earned her undergraduate degree in Nursing from Belmont University in Nashville in 1982; a Master's Degree in Nursing with a specialty in Family Practice from Vanderbilt University in 1997; and a Doctorate of Nursing Practice with a specialty in Public Health Nursing Leadership from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in 2007. Dr. Haushalter is married to David Mills, Director of Government Relations at Nemours. They have five children and ten grandchildren.

The current Interim Director of the Shelby County Health Department, Janet Shipman, will return to her duties as the Assistant Shelby County Attorney for the health department and forensics center. She has served as Interim Director since July of 2015, when Yvonne Madlock retired after serving as Director for 20 years.

(End of Release)